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J. W. ROYER, M. D.,
Practising Physician,
TRAPPE, Pa. Office at his residence, nearly
opposite Masonic Hall.

M. Y. WEBER, M. D.,
Practising Physician,
EVANSBURG, PA. Office Hours:—Until 9
a. m.; 7 to 9 p. m.

E. A. KRUSEN, M. D.,
Homeopathic Physician,
COLLEGEVILLE, PA. Office Hours:—Until
9 a. m.; 6 to 8 p. m.

S. B. HORNING, M. D.,
Practising Physician,
EVANSBURG, PA. Telephone in office.
Office Hours until 9 a. m.

DR. B. F. PLACE,
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311 DEKALB ST., NORRISTOWN, PA.
Branch Office—Collegeville—Tuesday, every
week. Gas administered.

Cheapest Dentist in Norristown.
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269 SWEDEN STREET, (first house
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The only place where Pure Nitrous Oxide
(Laughing Gas) is made a specialty for the
painless extraction of teeth. Artificial sets from
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610 Chestnut St., Philadelphia.
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All legal business attended to promptly. Also
agents for first-class Stock Fire Insurance Com-
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Auctioneer,
PHOENIXVILLE, P. O., Pa. Residence near Black
Rock. Over Providence. Will do my best
to fill every engagement satisfactorily.

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Plumbers,
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OFFICES—1224 North 10th St., & 2816 Germa-
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a specialty. Estimates furnished.

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Practical Slater,
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slate, slate flagging and roofing felt. All
orders promptly attended to. Also on
hand a lot of greystone flagging.

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RAHN STATION, PA. Dealer in every quality
of Roofing, Flagging, and Ornamental Slates.
Send for estimates and prices.

TIGER HOTEL,
Fourth & Vine Sts., Philada.
This old and popular hotel still furnishes the
best accommodations for man and beast. The
bar always supplied with the best liquors and
cigars. Rates: \$1.50 per day; from \$4.50 to \$6
per week.
J. W. PLACE, PROPRIETOR.
JOHN GENTHER, Clerk.

JOSEPH STONE,
Carpet Weaver,
COLLEGEVILLE HOTEL. Rag carpet woven
in any style desired. Satisfaction guaranteed.
Good rag carpet for sale at reasonable prices.

BENJAMIN CROWTHER,
Rag Carpet & Rug Weaver,
LOWER PROVIDENCE P. O., Pa. Carpets for
sale. Old Ingrain carpet cut and re-wove; car-
pet laid; carpet rags called for and carpet de-
livered. All orders by mail promptly attended
to. Residence and Looms opposite the
Old Shrawder Mill.

MAGGIE MACGREGOR,
Dressmaker,
COLLEGEVILLE, PA. Will take work at home
or can be engaged by the week.

MRS. S. L. PUGH,
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dead, shroud-making, &c.

SUNDAY PAPERS.
The different Philadelphia papers delivered
to those wishing to purchase in Collegeville and
Trappe, every Sunday morning.
HENRY YOST, News Agent.
Collegeville, Pa.

HORSE CLIPPING!
Horse clipping done in the best manner
by an experienced hand at
FERKIDOMEN BRIDGE HOTEL,
5no.

F. W. SCHEUREN,
Tonsorial
ARTIST!
COLLEGEVILLE,
PENNA.
Shaving, Hair Cutting, Shampooing, &c.
Ladies' Bang Cutting a Specialty. The
best establishment in town.
Opp. Parlor Opposite Post Office.



W. L. GEORGE,
COLLEGEVILLE, PA.
Shaving and Hair Cutting Parlor.
HAZARDS PUT IN FIRST-CLASS ORDER.
Opp. Gristock & Vanderslice's.

SCRAP IRON.
Cash prices paid for Scrap Cast Iron, de-
livered at the foundry: Machine cast, 50 cents
per 100; stove and plow cast, 25 cents per 100;
wrought scrap, 35 cents per 100.
ROBERTS MACHINE WORKS,
Collegeville, Pa.

AN ANXIOUS NIGHT.

I had, when a boy, always an inclina-
tion to be a soldier, and as I grew up
this desire increased with my growth.

My parents were not wealthy enough
to send me to a military college, so I
decided to enlist and endeavor to ob-
tain a commission from the ranks. At
the time I enlisted England was on
the verge of a struggle with Russia
and recruiting was very brisk. I had
no difficulty in passing the medical
examination, and was allowed to choose my
regiment. I chose the Ninety-second
(the Gordon Highlanders), thinking
that, being a crack fighting corps, it
would most likely be one of the
first to be sent to the front.

After joining my regiment and pass-
ing through three months' recruit drill,
the captain of my company, finding
that I was better educated than the
general run of recruits, and that I
took great interest in my duties,
recommended me for promotion, and I
was made a "lance corporal," my first
step on the ladder of fame. I was
proud of it, and wrote to my parents
such letters of hope! I almost pictured
myself with the queen's commission
in my hand.

But such is not unusual with newly
made noncommissioned officers. They
don't seem to think that they are like
young bears, with all their troubles
before them. I found later that I had
a great deal of responsibility to contend
with, although my rank as yet did
not amount to much.

Nevertheless, the officers spoke of
me as a promising "noncom," and up
to the time at which my narrative be-
gins I had given them no cause to
think otherwise. But on the night of
Dec. 31, 188—, I was within an ace
of being caught tripping, and of being
put back for a court martial.

Christmas in English regiments is
the day set apart for feasting and
merriment, but the Scotch celebrate
the new year. Discipline is relaxed to
a great extent on that day, and soldiers
may do things then for which at any
other time they would be severely
punished.

On the morning of Dec. 31 I was de-
tailed as corporal of a guard of three
men. It was my first guard, and I
mistrusted my ability to pull through
this important duty without assistance.
One of the privates of my guard was
a veteran. He had been years in the
service and had been formerly a color
sergeant, but through intemperate
habits had gradually been reduced to
the ranks. This man volunteered to
give me "pointers," and come to my
assistance in case of need. I accepted
his kind offer gladly, and resolved to
be as indulgent as I possibly could
with him and his comrades during the
twenty-four hours that we would have
to remain on duty.

At about 3 o'clock in the afternoon
—everything had gone on without a
hitch until then—this man, McDonald
by name, came to me as I was sitting
by the guardroom fire, and handing
me a bottle, said:

"Have a sup out of this, corporal.
Don't be afraid of it; it's only whisky.
It'll do you good this cold weather
and warm you up."

"Why, McDonald," I replied; "you
ought to know better than to bring
liquor into the guardroom. You know
very well it's against the rules, and
that you are going the right way to
get us all into trouble."

"Not a bit of it," he answered.
"It's New Year's eve, corporal. When
you've been in the regiment as long as
I have you'll not be so squeamish
about such small matters as that.
I've been eighteen years in the service
and I was a 'noncom' on guard
of a New Year's eve, I never objected
to allowing the men have a wee taste,
as long as they did not overdo it.
Of course everybody knows it isn't
allowed to the guard, but bless your
soul, corporal, it's winked at on New
Year's."

I did not like to be more severe
with the men than was absolutely
necessary, as I thought I might be

come unpopular among them, so I
asked him if that was the only bottle
he had.

"Yes," he replied, "and it's only
three parts full at that. My chum as
fetched the dinner down brought it
along from the mess."

"Well, if that's the case," I said, "I
will allow you to have it. I won't
take any myself, but you must put it
away until to-night, after the orderly
officer has been his rounds and all is
quiet."

I knew I was not justified in giving
this permission, and if it leaked out I
stood a good chance of getting into
serious trouble, but I reasoned with
myself that three parts of a bottle of
spirits between three men on a bitterly
cold night would not be likely to hurt
them, and that there was no possibility
of its being found out.

The general routine of a guard is
very monotonous. The privates be-
tween their turns of "sentry go," the
sentry being relieved every two hours,
are able to get an hour or two of
sleep, but for the "noncom" this is
out of the question. He has to post
the sentries in their turns, attend to
the gate and see to a hundred and one
matters, more or less important, that
helps to keep him employed.

There is always something stirring
till 10 or 11 at night, but after that
the time begins to hang very heavily.
The only sounds that break the noctur-
nal silence are the steady tramp of
the sentry at his post and the occasional
snoring of the other members of the
guard on the wooden guard bed.

On this New Year's eve all went
well until 8 in the evening, when,
while parading the relief sentry prior
to posting him, I noticed that instead
of holding himself as a soldier should
on parade he appeared inclined to
make light of the matter and was
grinning all over his face. I reminded
him that he was on parade and not in
the regimental canteen, and also that
there was a prisoner's room in the
vicinity. This little hint had the de-
sired effect, inducing him to keep a
straight face.

This incident, unimportant as it
may appear, made me uneasy. I had
a presentiment that something was
wrong, but what I could not tell. I
fancied that the man, knowing it to be
my first guard, was inclined to take
advantage of me. I determined, if
such was the case, I would exercise
my authority.

At about 9 o'clock McDonald came
to me for permission to fetch a bucket
of water from the pump to drink. I
gave him leave, requesting him to be
quick about it, as the first "post"
would sound in a few minutes and I
would have to turn out the guard. He
promised he would be back in a "jiff."

He did not come back in a jiff. At
9:30 the "post" sounded with no sign
of McDonald returning. Where had
he gone? Ordinarily it required but
five minutes to go to the pump and
back and he had been away half an
hour. There was nothing to do but
turn out what remained of the guard,
and to vow vengeance on the absentee
on his return.

Ten o'clock and no McDonald. I
was obliged to relieve the sentry with
the remaining men out of turn. On
entering the guardroom the man re-
lieved threw himself on the guard bed
and was soon snoring like a grampus.
I took up a book and tried to read. I
soon found this impossible. McDon-
ald's absence puzzled and worried me.
I felt inclined to report the affair
and have a search made for him. The
man had so frequently been in trouble
that I hesitated being the cause of
getting any further punishment. So I
resolved to give him a little more
time to put in his appearance.

I got up to walk about and tried to
question the sleeper. Finally I noticed
that the sentry had not been pacing
his beat for some time; he, I thought,
was taking too long a rest in the sentry
box. I went out to see what was the
matter with him. Oh! horror! There
was my sentry stretched out on the
ground on his back fast asleep, his
rifle three feet from him. I kicked
him to wake him, but to no purpose;
he lay like a log. Then it dawned on
me that my whole guard was drunk.

I did not know what to do. The
only thing I could think of was to
give the alarm and have the guard re-
lieved. But here a difficulty arose. I
would myself be made a prisoner and
receive heavier punishment than the
men for allowing liquor in the guard-
room. I was responsible for every-
thing. If I did not report the state
of affairs it would be sure to be found
out, as the colonel had not yet come
into barracks, and the orderly officer
must visit the guard that night. I
quickly resolved to get this man out
of the way, post the remaining one
and trust to luck.

I dragged him into the guardroom,
pitched him into a corner and tried to
wake his comrade. He was in the
same condition. I could get no sense
out of him, but I could tell by the
strong smell of spirits that came from
him that he was as bad, if not worse,

than the other. My last chance
seemed to have slipped away from me.

Here was a pretty kettle of fish.
McDonald away, I knew not where,
leaving me with two hopeless, drunken
wretches, and no one on the post.
Somebody must go on sentry to let
the colonel in and challenge the order-
ly officer. But who?

In sheer desperation I caught hold
of a rifle, and turning back the cuff
of my great coat to hide the stripes, I
went on the post myself. After an
hour's pacing to and fro, I heard foot-
steps outside the gate. I challenged:
"Halt! who comes there?"

"Friend," was the answer.
It was the colonel. I opened the
gate, and getting into the shadow of
it to prevent him recognizing me, he'd
it open to let him pass in.

"Everything all right, sentry," said
he.

"All right, sir," I replied, disguising
my voice as well as I could.

"Good night, sentry, and a happy
New Year to you."

"The same to you, sir," I answered,
devoutly wishing I might have a happy
one, but I had my doubts.

One danger passed. He had not
noticed anything. But I had a greater
one staring me in the face—the order-
ly officer. He was certain to come,
and it was his duty to visit the sentry
and inspect the guard. There was no
telling at what time he might come
around. My only chance lay in his
coming late, so as to give McDonald a
chance to come back before his visit,
or the others time to sleep off the
effects of their spree.

I paced quickly to and fro, feeling
like a criminal awaiting his time to be
led forth to the gallows. I felt I did
not deserve this. I had always tried
to do my duty, and had become quite
popular. But now everything had
turned against me. I would be sure
to lose my stripes, and the chances
were would have to serve a term of
imprisonment with the wretches who
had brought this trouble on me. If
that happened I might say goodbye to
the chance of a commission.

I was thinking this and a good deal
more when I was startled by hearing
Clank! Clank! Clank! The sound of
a sword jolting in its scabbard. It
was the orderly officer. My hair
stood up on my head like wires, and
the perspiration rolled down my face.

"Halt! Who comes there?" I al-
most screamed.

"Visiting rounds," replied the ap-
proaching officer.

"Guards, turn out," I yelled, know-
ing all the time that was impossible.
"Never mind the guards. Is every-
thing all right, sentry?"

"All right, sir," I replied, hardly
able to believe my ears.

Then I heard his footsteps return-
ing toward the officers' mess, and I
knew I was safe. It was the laziest
officer in the regiment, and one of the
best, who had taken the place of
another, so as to allow him to go to a
dance in the town, and this exchange
saved me. The officer was too indol-
ent to inspect the guard.

The strain on my nerves was ter-
rible. I was obliged to walk about
for an hour, even after all danger had
passed, to regain my composure.
When I had restored myself to
something like calmness I went to the
pump, and fetching a bucket of ice
cold water, brought the two men to a
sense of duty with a portion of it. I
then ushered them into the prisoners'
room.

At 5 a. m. McDonald put in his ap-
pearance. I sent him to join the
others and turned the key on them all.
After frightening them out of their
wits for an hour or so, they begged
and prayed of me to give them a
chance. I let them out on condition
that they would hand me over what
remained of the liquor. What was my
astonishment when they exposed to
my view seven full bottles and one
half empty.

I don't think I ever enjoyed any-
thing half as much in my life as in
breaking those bottles and seeing the
liquor disappear in the turf in the
rear of the guardhouse. The remain-
ing few hours passed away smoothly
until I was relieved.

It was needless to add that ever
afterward when, after this experience,
I was placed in charge of a guard I
never neglected to search every nook
and corner of the guardhouse in
search of concealed liquor.—*Elmira
Telegram.*

TALL JANE.

"You don't mean that's Jane's skirt,
Mrs. Ward?"

"Yes, I do."

"Why, it's larger than yours."

"I know it. She's taller than I be.
She's grown all out of everything
lately. I've let down tucks and hems,
an' pieced at the top, an' now her pink
gingham is most up to her knees. I
had to buy this new so she'd look de-
cent to go to school. Jane, come here
a minute."

Then Jane came in hesitatingly.

Her small head, with its mat of fair
braids, drooped forlornly, her slender
shoulders were bent. She pulled down
her pink skirt nervously, trying to
make it longer.

"Stand up here 'side of me," order-
ed her mother. "I want Mrs. Mason
to see how much taller you be."

Jane's pretty young face flushed
pink. She stood beside her mother,
and the tears started in her eyes, al-
though she tried to smile.

"You can't get through the door if
you don't stop pretty soon, Jane,"
laughed Mrs. Mason, who was visiting
the Wards. "I never seen such a sight
an' she ain't over fourteen?"

"She ain't fifteen till next month,"
replied Mrs. Ward. "An' if she don't
git her growth till she's eighteen, I
don't know where she'll be. Her
father tells her he's going to hire her
out by and by for a telegraph pole."

Jane laughed feebly when her moth-
er and Mrs. Ward did. Then she stole
back to the door step, and the tears
rolled down her cheeks. It was nearly
time for her to start to school. Pres-
ently her mother came with her dinner
pail. "Here's your dinner," said she.

"You'd better start before long, so as
not to hurry. It's a pretty warm
morn'."

"Yes'm," said Jane. She kept her
face turned away from her mother so
her tear stained eyes should not be
noticed.

"You shall have your new dress to
wear to-morrow," said her mother as
she finally started with her school
books under her arm and the dinner
pail swinging. "You shan't wear that
short thing again."

Jane tugged at her pink dress skirt
as she went out of the yard; she even
stooped a little to make it look longer.
Nobody knew how sore Jane's heart
was over her height. She had a mile
to walk to school, and she never
thought of anything else all the way.

Presently she came to a large white
house, with a crab apple tree in the
front yard. Mary Etta and Maria
Starr lived there, and she saw the flut-
ter of their blue dresses at the gate.
They were waiting for her.

"Hallo!" said Mary Etta as Jane
drew near.

"Hallo!" responded Jane, trying to
make her voice cheerful.

Maria was eating a crab apple and
did not say "hallo!" but presently
both she and her sister stared wonder-
ingly at Jane.

"What's the matter?" asked Mary
Etta finally.

"Nothin's the matter."

"Yes, there is, too. You've been
crying."

Jane said nothing.

"She's Mad," said Maria.

Mary Etta lingered. "What's the
matter?" she asked again, quite lov-
ingly.

"Nothin's the matter. I wish you'd
let me alone," cried Jane, with a burst
of tears. That was enough. Mary
Etta and Maria hurried up the road,
with curt switches of their blue starched
skirts, and Jane plodded miserably
on behind.

Poor Jane was the tallest girl in
school, and not only that, but the tall-
est scholar; not one of the boys was
as tall as she, and not only that, she
was taller than the teacher. It did
seem to Jane that the committee ought
to have chosen a teacher who was taller
just out of regard to the becoming and
suitable appearance of the school. A
stranger might almost have taken her
for the teacher, especially since her
hair was done up.

When the bell had rung, Jane sat at
her desk, her pink shoulders and her
pretty, pink face above all the others.
She looked like a tall, pink hollyhock
in a bed of daisies. This was a trying
moment for her. The committee came
to visit the school, and a strange gen-
tleman and his wife came with them.

Jane distinctly saw this strange
lady turn her white plumed head to-
ward her, then whisper to her husband.
Then she saw him look at her and ask
one of the committeemen who that
tall girl was. She could tell what he
said by the motion of his lips. Then
he told his wife, and a little smile stole
over her serene face between its soft
curls of black hair.

Jane thought she was laughing at
her. She did not dream that the lady
had noticed her because her face was
so pretty, and not because she was so
tall.

The geography class came and the
visitors were still there. Jane filed
out with the rest. She thought she
had her lesson perfectly, but she missed
in bounding Uruguay, and had to go
down. A little bit of a girl in a long
sleeved apron went above her. She
had a conviction that the visitors were
saying: "What! that great, tall,
grown up girl with her hair done up,
missing!"

However, the change brought her
next to Robert Carnes; he shuffled
his bare toes uneasily on the line, as
he bemoaned Venezuela in a high, sweet
voice; then he cast a quick, shame-
faced, but wholly sympathetic glance
at Jane, which she felt rather than saw,

but it comforted her. She and Robert
were near neighbors, and when they
were children had played together a
great deal.

But the worst came when one of the
committeemen addressed the school,
and in the course of his remarks said
distinctly that intellect was not to be
measured by size, and he often noticed
that the smallest scholars had their
lessons much better than those who
were taller and older. Jane felt that
he referred to her and little Hattie
Baker and the bounding of Uruguay.

Her cheeks burned hotter and hotter.
Maria Starr, who was three desks off
in the same row, leaped forward until
she could see her, and giggled. Mary
Etta, in the seat behind, pulled her
sister's arm to make her stop, but she
did not heed.

Jane saw the committee and the
strange lady and gentlemen go out,
while the teacher stood courtesying at
the door, and all through a nearing
cloud of tears. When the door closed
after the company she hooped her
arms around her face, and laid it down
on the desk. The teacher came and
stood beside her, and asked her what
the matter was. Jane only shook her
head and wept.

"Are you sick?" asked the teacher,
bending low over her.

"No, ma'am," sobbed Jane. She
would not say another word, and the
teacher went back to her desk and
called a class. "Jane," she said pres-
ently, in a clear, authoritative voice,
"You may go out and get a pail of
water."

The teacher meant it very kindly;
it was considered quite a privilege to
get a pail of water, and then pass it
around in a tin dipper; she thought it
would serve to distract Jane's mind
from her grief, whatever it might be.

But it was dreadful for poor Jane to
pull herself up to her full height and
crawl slowly down the aisle, with her
arms crooked in a pink ring around
her face, and all the school looking.
She stumbled over a protruding nail,
and everybody giggled, and the
teacher called out, "Hush!" sharply.

Jane went out with the water pail,
but instead of filling it from the pump
near the school house she sat it down
on the platform and fled desperately
down the road to a little bridge over a
brook.

Her mind was made up, she would
not go back to school, she had never
been so miserable in her life, and the
misery was all the greater because she
was ashamed of it and ashamed to
confess it. She did not want to tell
even her mother that she minded so
much because she was tall; she
crouched low down in the bushes and
wept.

Presently she heard a quick patter
of bare feet on the bridge, then a
break in the bushes.

"Hello!" called a hesitating voice.
Jane made no sound.

"Ho, you needn't play you ain't
there," said the voice. "I see you
come in here. I was looking out of
the window. I raised my hand when
teacher asked where you was, and she
sent me out here to fetch the water,
and to tell you to come in."

Jane looked up and saw a boy's
face peering down at her from the top
of the bank, his brown cheeks flushing,
his red lips parting in a bashful laugh.

"I ain't ever going back to school,
Robbie," said Jane with a sob. All
the old childish comradeship seemed to
come back to her, she had not seen
much of him for a year or two; she
had played more with girls.

It is interesting to learn, better late than never, that Speaker Crisp has ascertained that there is a Congressman at Washington from this district. Mr. Halliwell has been assigned to the Committee of Agriculture.

THE President Tuesday filled the vacancies in the Inter-State Commerce Commission by appointing James Wilson McDill, of Iowa, to succeed Judge Cooley, and William Lindsey, of Kentucky, to succeed the late Watson L. Bragg, of Alabama.

THE tin-plate tax will reach nearly \$20,000,000 a year. It will come out of the people's pockets. If the employment of American labor is the purpose of the tax it would be cheaper to tax the people to pay the wages of the tin-plate makers while they did nothing at all.

SAYS the Indianapolis News: "Five hundred American boys in pursuit of one inoffensive Chinaman was a New Year's incident in Chicago. Reverse the condition and put 500 Chinese after one American and what an indignant howl would go up from the United States?"

A PLEA of insanity was set up as a defense for a prisoner before a British court on a charge of felony, but it did not save him from being sent to penal servitude for three years, during which time the Judge said it would be possible to thoroughly investigate the plea and make sure that it would hold water. This is a line of jurisprudence which might well be followed on this side.

THE Philadelphia Times observes: "The Government may fill a long felt want by issuing its new postal cards in two sizes, but at present it must be confessed that its action is rather suggestive of the story of the scientist who had two dogs, a Newfoundland and a Skye, and cut two holes in the back fence for their accommodation, a big hole for the Newfoundland and a little one for the terrier."

THE State Treasurer's monthly report shows \$5,330,671.17 in the general fund, and \$782,760.25 in the sinking fund. The large amount in the sinking fund is necessary to meet the \$5,000,000 school appropriation, which is paid in June. After next June it is not expected that much money will be carried in the general fund except just before the school appropriation is due each year.

RICHARD VAUX, the distinguished Philadelphian, completes to-day a full half century as one of the inspectors of the Eastern Penitentiary, for forty years of which period he has been the president and active spirit of the Board. What adds peculiar distinction to this long service is that Mr. Vaux has through all this time been carrying on the work begun by his father, Roberts Vaux, the pioneer in American prison reform.

MILWAUKEE, which had a population of 204,468 when the census-takers went their rounds in 1890, now has a population of 236,288, and expects to begin the next century with 350,000. Among the schemes discussed promoting the more rapid growth of the city are a proposed Belt Line of railway around the city, and an electrical railroad to Chicago to be built in time to give the people quick and cheap transit during the continuance of the World's Fair.

THE Supreme Court rendered an important decision, Monday, which licensed saloon and hotel-keepers will do well to remember. The decision is to the effect that the statute making saloon-keepers responsible for damage for injuries resulting from the sale of liquors to intoxicated persons is good law and capable of enforcement. The case in question was against an Allegheny county saloon-keeper who furnished one of his intoxicated customers with liquor enough to make him very drunk. While in this condition he fell into a gutter full of water and contracted pneumonia, from which he died. The widow sued for and secured substantial damages. The court of last resort decides that the law is good and the verdict must stand. It is probable that many licensed liquor dealers were unaware of the existence of this law, but they should be ignorant of it no longer.

IN the matter of business failures 1891 seems to have beaten the record, the agency of R. G. Dun & Co. reporting 12,273, as against 10,907 in 1890, and the highest number reported since the agency was established in 1857. There is a brighter side to the story, however, as the total liabilities for the year amount only to \$189,000, 400, or almost precisely the same as last year. The average liability to each failure, which in 1890 was \$17, 406, in 1891 is only \$15,471. The distribution of the loss geographically shows an important gain in the Eastern States and a corresponding loss in the

South. The Eastern liabilities are \$19,000,000, as against \$27,000,000 last year, but in the South they are \$45,000,000, against \$27,000,000 in 1890. The changes in the other sections amount to from \$2,000,000 to \$5, 000,000, showing that only in the East and South is there any marked change in business conditions.

WASHINGTON LETTER.
From Our Regular Correspondent.
WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 1, 1892.

There is a decided lull of war talk, the rumor mongers having about exhausted all their ingenious theories on the Chilean situation, and now everybody is doing what the administration has been doing—waiting to hear what the new Chilean administration will have to say for itself. Gen. Nelson A. Miles, who came here to attend the wedding of Miss Rachel Sherman, daughter of the late Gen. Sherman, to Dr. Thorndike, of Boston, which took place on Wednesday, quickly disposed of the rumor that he had been ordered here by the President to discuss the feasibility of invading Chili with an army, by stating that he was not ordered here, but came to bring his wife to the marriage of Miss Sherman, who is her cousin.

That there is a probability of war with Chili no one denies, and what adds danger to the situation is the sentiment which exists largely among our public men in favor of a foreign war with somebody. Senator Morgan, of Alabama, a prominent democrat member of the Senate committee on Foreign Affairs, is one of the few who does not hesitate to openly express such sentiments. It is easy to see that in the face of this sentiment nothing short of acceding to the demands of the administrations for an apology for the attack upon the sailors of the Baltimore and the payment of indemnity to the families of the sailors killed will be accepted as satisfactory from Chili. It is idle to talk about submitting the matters to arbitration, there is nothing to arbitrate. This Government has plainly stated its demands and the answer must be yes or no. If yes; everything will be all right. If no; there will be war. It is now only a question of how much longer the answer will be waited for.

To talk economy in Government expenditures and to bring about a reduction in Congressional appropriations are two very different things. The first is so easy that any one can take a hand in it, while the last is very difficult as the democratic leaders are already finding out. The average Congressman is perfectly willing that a radical reduction shall be made in all of the appropriation bills, which do not affect any interest in his district, but he regards it as little short of a national misfortune for his colleagues to even talk of sweeping reductions in any appropriation of which even a small portion does to his constituents. 'Tis folly to waste time criticising this feeling; it's only human nature, as the average Congressman may always be depended upon to do precisely what the average followers of any other occupation would do under the same circumstances.

Representative Holman, chairman of the committee on Appropriations, and other ultra economy advocates are trying to get the House committee on Rules to put all the appropriation bills back into the hands of that committee, from which they were taken and divided among eight separate committees a few years ago. A table which has been prepared shows that the division of responsibility has been followed by a great increase in the totals of the several appropriation bills, but whether this has been the result of the change, or of the increasing necessities of a rapidly growing country is a question. The return to the old order of things will be warmly opposed to every member of each of the seven committees that would be shorn of the prestige which the preparation of an appropriation bill gives them, to say nothing of the influential lobbyists interested in some item in this or that appropriation bill, who would much prefer having the bills scattered among a number of committees than to see them all controlled by one.

The New Year reception at the White House was as interesting as usual, and was enjoyed by a much larger crowd than usual. This is the one day in the year when by patiently standing for a couple hours, outside the White House, the humblest citizen can see all of the men prominent in politics, diplomacy, the judiciary branch of the Government, and the Army and Navy—a sight worth seeing to those who like to observe the kind of men who get on top in life's struggle; and at no other time can all of the foreign ministers and the attaches of foreign legations be seen in their gaudy official uniforms.

Col. W. W. Dudley made an ineffectual attempt this week to get Mr. Blaine to declare himself in regard to the Presidential nomination. The impression is growing here that Mr. Blaine will say whatever he has to say on this subject in the speech which he has promised to deliver in Boston this month.

The schedule of the articles included in the reciprocity treaty with the British West India Islands, which was made public this week, appears to give general satisfaction, although there is some regret that wheat and corn was not put upon the free list, in place of being given a reduction of 25 per cent. from the present duties.

NO GREAT FEAR OF WAR.
From the Boston Transcript.

One of our contemporaries cheerily refers to a single sign of peace with Chili. Few people have yet been able to discover any signs of war worthy of being seriously considered by our government. Some naval and army officers have attempted to get up a war scare, but without conspicuous success.

CANNOT TAMPER WITH GENERAL GREGG.
From the Lancaster Intelligencer.

We are of the confident belief that the Republican politicians of the State never did a worse thing for themselves, nor a better one for their party, than in electing General Gregg to be Auditor General. Every mother's son in office who has to account to the General for the moneys of the State may make up his mind to do it promptly and fully and to have his check ready when the clock strikes.

PECULIARITIES OF THE GRIP.
From the Chicago News.

The versatility of the grip is not the least imposing feature of that malady. An Indiana man who had it is now as a pool-ball. His moustache dropped into his dinner-plate one day when he was convalescing and then he mounded his eyebrows and his hair fell out. Now his own looking-glass would not know him. Apparently the only things the grip is incapable of doing for a man are to call the doctor and pay his bill.

WOULDN'T TAKE THE PARSON'S WORD.
From the Oregonian.

An Olympia scientist measured a big fir tree the other day, and found it to be slightly over 300 feet high. Intending to send the report of the measurement to a friend in Cleveland, Ohio, he wished to add other testimony to his own, and invited a minister of the gospel to measure the tree. The result was sent to the Ohio man, who immediately upon its receipt sent this dispatch: "We read Munchausen when a boy." The scientist now wonders whether the bulk of the joke is upon himself or upon the preacher.

A PUZZLER FOR DOCTORS.
THIS GIRL DOES NOT EAT AND TAKES ONLY CAT NAPS.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Jan. 3.—May Cross the 16-year-old daughter of Edward Cross, a carpenter in Jordan, a village 17 miles from here, is an enigma to physicians. She had lived sixty-seven days without apparent nourishment and yet she weighs about 110 pounds, and was strong enough to sing at her grandfather's funeral three weeks ago. Her peculiar condition had been coming on for two years, when she had the grip. Food in any form remains on her stomach an instant only. A peculiar phase of the case is that she does not sleep, with the exception of an hour in the morning. Opium and chlorals act only as stimulants.

CHASED BY A MINE DELUGE.
TEN MULES DROWNED AND TWO MEN SAVED UNDER THE EARTH.

SHENANDOAH, Pa., Jan. 3.—From fifty to seventy-five miners employed at Preston Colliery, No. 3, are thanking their lucky stars that the deluge did not rush into their mine during working hours. It came last night, so that the miners were not drowned as ten mules were, 300 feet down the slope. At midnight the two solitary pumpmen at work in the mine rushed up the slope like madmen, away from a terrific explosion below, as they thought. In reality they were chased by a great flood. It had deluged an adjoining slope, burst through the pillar or wall and rushed into their mine. The pumpmen escaped. The mine can be pumped out in a few days.

HYDROPHOBIA'S IMAGININGS.
From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

"I see a report of the peculiar conduct of a child after being bitten by a cat," said Dr. J. W. Thudfield at the Laclede. "The child is said to move steadily about the house, to mew and to do other things which resemble the acts of a common tabby. For my part I believe the statement is purely imaginative. It comes from the idea that one affected with hydrophobia imitates a dog. That is a common delusion with as little foundation as other delusions. It is true that a person sometimes 'barks,' but what is called a bark is due to an intense pain of the throat and the difficulty of speaking. The same causes produce the dislike of all kinds of liquid—a dislike which the public in general imagine is confined to water. This is the true theory about hydrophobia upon which so much ignorance at present prevails."

ROBBING THE STARVING.
A FRIGHTFUL CONDITION OF AFFAIRS AMONG RUSSIAN OFFICIALS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—The London correspondent of the Times cables as follows: "The Russian famine appears to be assuming vast proportions. A trustworthy correspondent declares that in the province of Samara, where he resides, one-half of the population—no fewer than 1,350,000 persons—are literally dying of starvation, and Levasseur, the eminent French statistician, has calculated that to supply the deficiency in thirteen provinces 6500 ships must be employed, carrying 128,000,000 hectoliters of grain, which would cost \$260,000,000. The state has not the money to spend; not even if it found the money could it provide the means of transport over a surface of 1,000,000 square kilometers to the 5,400,000 houses in food of food."

"Moreover, the assertion at first elaborately denied and anxiously disbelieved, that the official corruption would not be checked, even by the horrors of so dire a calamity, has now been abundantly proved to be true. The entire subscription of St. Petersburg for the benefit of its own poor and those of the environs has been stolen. The 15,000,000 pounds of rye flour purchased has been found to be so infamously adulterated as to be wholly unuseable, and in parts poisonous. The revelations are but now beginning. We shall hear more of them."

Philadelphia Markets.
PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 3, 1892.

FLOUR AND MEAL.	
Minnesota clear	\$4 50 to 5 00
Pennsylvania family	4 25 to 4 75
Patent and other high grades	5 00 to 5 25
Rye flour	4 90 to 5 00
Feed	\$18 00 to \$19 50 per ton.
GRAIN.	
Wheat—red	1 01 to 1 04
Corn	47 to 51
Oats	39 to 41
HAY.	
Average prices for the week ending Jan. 2, 1892:	
Prime Timothy	\$ 85 to 95 100 lbs.
Mixed	80 to 90
Straw	70 to 80

JUST OPENED!
At Wissahickon Station on Phila. & R. R., 21st Ward, Philadelphia.
A Large Market House!
— 60 STALLS —
ALL FREE FOR ONE YEAR!
Only one other market in the town. Population, 30,000.
Apply at once to WM. McFADDEN, on the premises.

What We Are Doing
—IN—

Coats, Jackets

—AND—
DRY -- GOODS!

We have just reduced a lot of the best make but old style of New Jackets and Suits Coats that have been on hand for some time but NOW THEY MUST BE SOLD.
We will follow the common style of advertising by naming \$2.00, \$3.00, \$4.00, on goods that cost \$2.00, but

Reduce \$6 to \$2 and \$9 Coats to \$2.50.

We have about 75 Coats that will be reduced in the same proportion.
Also at the same time do not forget our New COATS, JACKETS and REEFERS, made, trimmed and finished in good style. — We have on hand a few very great

Bargains in Dry Goods!

You will find among them one lot of Cotton Dress Goods that have been sold at 10 cents. We will sell them at 5 cents yard. All Dress Goods at the lowest prices. Call on

MORGAN WRIGHT,
KEYSTONE DRY GOODS STORE,

Main St., Opposite Square, Norristown, Pa.

Holiday Goods

We shall upon this occasion endeavor to surpass all previous efforts and will show the largest, finest, and most complete line of Holiday Goods ever displayed in Collegeville!

Toys of Every Description.

Dolls from 5 cents to \$1.00.
Baby Coaches, Wheelbarrows, Express Wagons, Carts, Sleds, &c.
Work Boxes and Baskets,
Albums, Toilet Cases, &c.

China Ware Department

WAS NEVER SO COMPLETE.

Cups and Saucers, and Plates, Mustache Cups and Saucers, Mugs, Bisque Frames, Vases, Lemonade Sets, Fine Hanging Lamps, Library Lamps, Baby Rock Cradles, Land Lamps are beautiful. Fine Engraved Glasses, &c.

Silk - and - Linen - Handkerchiefs!

Perfumery put up in Elegant Novelties, New shades of Kid Gloves, lined and unlined. Beautiful Embroidered Slippers.

—FINEST CONFECTIONS!—

Choice Cream Mixtures, 3 lbs. for 25 cts. French Mixtures, 15 cts. Finest Cream Chocolate, 30 cts. per lb. Candy Toys, Almonds, English Walnuts and Filberts, 15 cts. per lb.

Specialties - in - Groceries:

Seedless Raisins, Citron, Washed Currants, Figs, New Dates, Brick's Mince Meat, New Orleans Molasses, &c.

The New Domestic Sewing Machine, \$19.50.

MAKES A HANDSOME PRESENT.

W. P. FENTON,
21st Feb. COLLEGEVILLE, PA.

OUR STOCK

—OF—

Store -- Goods

Includes the usual assortment required to meet the wants of patrons during the season as they come and go, including DRY GOODS, MUSLINS, CALICOES, GINGHAMS, CLOTHS, LINENS, &c., &c., &c.

Canton Flannels!

UNDERWEAR FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

Cassimeres, Cottonades, Gent's Furnishing Goods, all at the lowest prices.

Boots & Shoes

For everybody, marked down 15 per cent. RUBBER GOODS of all kinds. Large Stock of GLOVES.

FRESH GROCERIES

IN FULL ASSORTMENT.

F. B. RUSHONG,

TRAPPE, PA.

THE PLACE TO BUY

Furniture, Carpets,

—&c., &c., &c.—

—IS AT—

Bechtel's Warerooms!

WE ARE DEVOTING OUR WHOLE TIME AND ATTENTION TO THE

Housefurnishing -- Business

IN ALL ITS BRANCHES.

Therefore we are better prepared to meet the wants of our customers than any other place in the county. We are now prepared to show a complete assortment in—

Brussels, Ingrain and Rag Carpets,

SMYRNA, MOQUETTE and other rugs at astonishingly low prices.

My customers have been convinced in buying Furniture as well as Carpets, that they can buy cheaper at our place than by going to the cities; earlier they have seen and bought the carpets, or have set up all Furniture in first-class order, for a charge.

Bed Springs, Mattresses, Feathers, Bedding, Sideboards, Sinks, Lounges, Couches, "Fancy" Rockers, &c.

Shades made to order and hung. Picture Frames made to order, always a good stock of moulding on hand. Have now added a fine assortment of

OIL CLOTHS

To our extensive stock. Any new work made to order. Upholstering and all kinds of repairing done at very low prices. Moving attended to. Give us a call, learn our prices, and be convinced.

John L. Bechtel,
COLLEGEVILLE, PA.

WANTED.
A hired man from first of April, 1892. Apply to WM. PRIZER, Collegeville, Pa.

WANTED!
Three to five furnished rooms in Evansburg or immediate vicinity by a man and wife; will pay a good rent and give first-class references. For further particulars inquire at THIS OFFICE.

HOUSEKEEPING

OUTFITS

Everything that beginners usually ask for, and almost anything that established households may wish to get, either to complete their comfort or to replace worn-out articles:

That's What We Have!

One of the following headings will call to mind many articles. We are taking care to have a good assortment in every one of the departments.

Prices as Low as Possible!

Parlor Furniture, Sheetting Muslins, Kitchen Furniture, Quilting Prints, Hall Furniture, Quilting Cotton, Bedroom Furniture, Feathers, Bed Springs, Cork Savings, Mattresses, Carpets, Bed Tings, Queensware, Oil Cloths, Window Shades, Window Papers.

We are getting a list of household articles printed that shall have everything in our line that is customarily bought with an outfit; we will send or give it to anyone asking for it. We mean to save a lot of work and worry for outfit buyers,—the work of themselves getting up a list of what is wanted and the worry of providing against forgetting things.

The list can be carefully looked over at home and articles to be looked at or bought be marked, then taken along to the store, everything can be seen and bought and not a single article need be forgotten, which will be a decided improvement. It will positively please everybody that tries it. Just send us address and request on a postal card.

KULP & WAGNER,
GRATER'S FORD, PENNA.

AS USUAL

—OUR STOCK OF—

Fall & Winter Goods

IS COMPLETE IN VARIETY AND QUALITY.

WE MENTION

Cloths and Cassimeres

FOR SUITINGS FOR MEN AND BOYS.

SUITS MADE TO ORDER;

FITS GUARANTEED.

A Suit of Clothes made from good goods at a reasonable figure is always a satisfactory investment. Our stock of

Dress Goods, Coatings, &c.

Will be sure to please the ladies.

They appreciate assortment and quality, and we study to please them.

Large New Stock of SHOES for Men, Women and Children.

Our Grocery Department

Never lags in the rear. It is always up to the times in quality and variety of goods and fairness in price.

Come and see us and we'll do our best to serve you well.

Yours truly,

Beaver & Shellenberger,

TRAPPE, PA.

NEW

DRESS GOODS

For the Winter of 1891-92

—AT—

LEOPOLD'S!

We have just received from some of the leading importers a choice—

variety of new

Cheviots, Homespuns, Habit Cloths, Camels Hair, and other Novelties

IN BEAUTIFUL STYLES.

We have some handsome Dress Patterns, one of a kind, not to be found in any other store in Pottstown. We offer again a new line of excellent Homespuns one and an eighth yards wide at 50 cents. These are superior to anything offered in Philadelphia at that price, and pronounced by some of the Dress Goods men of several of Philadelphia's leading stores to be cheap at 75 cents.

We've sold hundreds of yards of this quality of goods and never knew anything to give better satisfaction.

We have new goods, all wool, as low as 25 cents and up to \$2.00. You may expect to find the choicest Dress Goods, Cloakings, Coats, Capes, Furs, Corsets, Fast Black Hosiery and Gloves, at

Leopold's,

254 HIGH ST.,

POTTSTOWN, PA.

FOR SALE!

A farm of 110 acres of productive land in Upper Providence. Will be sold cheap and on easy terms. Apply to J. M. ZIMMERMAN, Collegeville, Pa.

COLLEGEVILLE DRUG STORE.

—THIS IS THE PLACE TO GET—

Pure Paris Green, White-Hellebore and Persian Insect Powder.

An Assortment of Sponges and Chamomile Skins on Hand.

PURE BAKING POWDER, Our Own Make. BIRD SEED, Mixed and Plain; best in the market. NAPPALINE OR TAR CAMPHOR, in Ball, Cake and Flake.

RED LINIMENT for Sprains, Bruises, Rheumatism, &c. WORM SYRUP, Pleasant, Safe and Effective. Try a Ten Cent Box of our TOOTH POWDER.

DIARRHEA MIXTURE will cure your Diarrhea, Dysentery, Cholera Morbus, &c.

A Full Line of Pure and Fresh Drugs always on hand.

JOSEPH W. CULBERT.

HOLIDAY :: GIFTS!

A COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF

DIAMONDS and Precious Stones, JEWELRY, Newest Designs. SILVERWARE, A Magnificent Display. WATCHES, An Unequaled Assortment. CLOCKS, In Finish and Quality none Superior. UMBRELLAS, All. Gold Pens & Pencils, and PENCILS, GOLD SPECTACLES

FOR ALL DEFECTIVE EYES, &c., &c.

G. LANZ'S, No. 211 DeKalb Street, Norristown, Pa.

GRAND DISPLAY OF HOLIDAY GOODS

BEAUTIFUL PRESENTS TO SUIT ALL DEMANDS AND SATISFY ALL WANTS. AN UNEQUALLED ASSORTMENT AND VARIETY TO SUIT ALL TASTES IN

Diamonds, Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Silverware.

Do not fail to send in your order for the Solid Silver

Providence Independent

TERMS:—\$1.25 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

Thursday, Jan. 7, 1892.

Home Flashes and Sparks From Abroad.

—Haul down that handsome cutter from the second story of the wagon house.

—Rig up your sleds and sleighs, and polish up the bells.

—And then go sleighing!

—If there happens to be enough snow.

—At this writing an old-fashioned snow storm is fast covering the earth in this section with a mantle of white.

—And piling up drifts.

—Over night our "purr" changed his opinion. He looks unusually wise just now and predicts plenty of snow and a cold winter.

—Roversford did "get there," in part.

—By the way, Dr. Stein will have six months' service at the Almshouse—just enough to make him feel "More-ish."

—Our "purr" is wondering whether some of the Directors of the Poor have been taking instructions from the distinguished management of the Charity Hospital, Norristown, for they have a dozen or more doctors interested there, you know.

—Perhaps!

—The Harveysville News, one of our most sprightly exchanges, entered upon its seventh volume last week. Congratulations, Ed. Eugene Dambly.

—Evensburg creamery will again pay 31 cents per pound for butter. Pay day for December, next Saturday.

—Messrs. Stahlnecker & Yost have disposed of a 95 acre farm in Worcester township belonging to Christian Beener. The purchaser is J. M. Holland, and the price paid was \$7,125.

—Clerk of Courts Gehman granted 763 marriage licenses during 1891. The total number of marriage licenses granted in the county since the law went into effect is 3883.

—Thomas P. Brady, of Easton, was buried Thursday in a coffin made by himself ten years ago.

—Says the Hazelton Sentinel: Five cents a day saved and invested will produce in seven years \$200. The same five cents invested in good newspapers may save a farmer the loss of \$10,000 on a gold brick in six months.

—Samuel Christman, of near Port Providence, has had luck in the poultry line. Recently he gathered his chickens together to kill a few for market, and was surprised to find that some had stolen 35. A few days later a Penna. Railroad train ran into his flock of turkeys and killed all but one.

—John F. Betz, the brewer, has purchased another tract of land adjoining his thousand or more acres at and about Betzwood. The new acquisition, known as the Schrack farm, comprising 23 acres, was bought by him last week, for \$5,000, to fill out a gap between two farms purchased some time ago.

MATRIMONY.

At Mount Kirk, Eagleville, Pa., December 31, 1891, by Rev. C. R. Brodhead, Mr. William S. Bossert and Miss Emma S. Decker, both of Montgomery county, Pa.

RELIGIOUS.

M. E. church, Evansburg. Sabbath school at 9:30 a. m., every Sabbath. Preaching, 10:45 a. m., and every Sabbath evening at 7:30.

Episcopal service at St. James' Evansburg every Sunday at 10:30 a. m., Sunday School, 2 p. m. Also a service at Roversford at 7 p. m. Rev. A. J. Barrow, Rector.

The Holy Communion will be celebrated next Sunday morning at 10 o'clock, at the Augustus Lutheran church, Trappe. Rev. E. T. Kretschmann, pastor. Preparatory service will be held on Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock. The Pastor's Aid Society will hold its regular monthly meeting immediately after Preparatory service on Saturday afternoon.

The Pastor of St. Luke's, Trappe, will preach his first anniversary sermon on Sunday at 10:30 a. m. On Sunday evening at 7:30 he will preach a missionary address on missionary work in New Zealand. The public is cordially invited to attend these services. Rev. E. Clark Hilschman, pastor.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S LYCEUM.

The Young People's Lyceum of Augustus Lutheran church, Trappe, will hold its regular meeting on Thursday evening, January 7, at 7:30 o'clock. A varied and interesting program has been arranged, and all who wish to spend a pleasant evening are cordially invited to attend.

MINGO EXPRESS HORSE COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the Mingo Express Horse Company was held at Dorworth's Hotel, Trappe, last Saturday. The affairs of the Company for the past year were reviewed, and the following officers re-elected: President, H. H. Fetterolf; Secretary, John S. Hunsicker; Assistant Secretary, Chas. U. Bean; Treasurer, A. D. Bechtel. The Treasurer's report exhibited a balance in the Treasury of \$480. The Company has a membership of 138. Membership fee, \$4.

Deafness Can't be Cured

By local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure Deafness, and that is by constitutional remedy. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a running sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and the tube restored to the normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever. It is not a case of Deafness caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces. We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness caused by catarrh that we cannot cure by taking Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free. P. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by J. W. Culbert, Druggist, Collegeville, Pa., 75 cents.

REORGANIZED.

The County Commissioners met at the Court House Monday morning and reorganized by making Samuel K. Anders, president. The Commissioners reappointed Edward Elsenhans, clerk; James B. Holland, solicitor, Daniel Charles, janitor.

STUCK BY A FALLING BRICK.

Last Thursday Jacob Brunner was assisting in the work of constructing the addition to Henry M. Alderfer's residence, in the lower ward, when he was struck on the head by a falling brick causing a gaping wound of about 2½ inches in length. Dr. S. B. Horning attended to the injury, from which Mr. Brunner is gradually recovering.

A DUCKING STOOL NEEDED.

A correspondent of Evansburg writes that the oldest inhabitant of that ancient village never heard such a "war of words" (vile and unbecoming) as two of the "gentler sex" of that town fired at each other last Saturday in front of the post office. "Tis a pity they were not treated to a shower bath."

UNDER A MASS OF COAL.

Richard Kelly, aged 35, a patient at the State Hospital for the Insane, Norristown, was killed at the coal house of that institution Saturday night by being smothered under ten tons of pea coal. Kelly was working under the coal chutes, when one of the patients, it is supposed, opened the door under the car and left the ten tons fall upon him.

TERIBLY BURNED.

Mrs. Sarah Ashenfelter, a nonegarian, of Jeffersonville, sustained burns on Friday that may result fatally. While sitting near the kitchen fire she was suddenly seized with an apoplectic stroke, and fell on the hot stove. A granddaughter chanced to come into the kitchen shortly after the accident had occurred, and her horrified screams brought assistance, but not before the aged lady was terribly burned.

MARTHA WASHINGTON TEA.

The Ladies Aid Society of Trinity Reformed church of this place have arranged to hold a Martha Washington Tea and a Bazaar of Seasons, on Saturday afternoon and evening, February 20, 1892. In connection with the entertainment there will be a sale of fancy articles as well as something for the inner man. The details of the affair as well as the place where the Bazaar will be held will be announced in due time.

CASE ADJOURNED.

The case of the Schuylkill Valley Dairyman's Association vs. Milton Detwiler of this township, was on Wednesday last week, adjourned until January 13th. Mr. Detwiler was the agent of the Association, and during his term \$1500 was lost which he claims was due to back debts and should be charged to profit and loss. The Company, however, claim that he is liable and sue for the recovery of the amount.

AN INTERESTING MEETING.

A most interesting meeting of the Y. W. C. T. U., of Yorkes, was held at the residence of Mr. James G. Detwiler, January 4, 1892. After the regular routine of business was closed the next in order was the literary exercises which were creditably rendered: Select Readings by Henry D. Allebach and Lydia Detwiler; two solos by Miss Detwiler were warmly applauded. After the Society adjourned the members were invited to the dining room where they partook of cake and lemonade.

DEATHS.

Mrs. Margaret Koons, widow of 'Squire Frederick Koons late of Perkiomen township, died Friday at Chestnut Hill, aged 86 years. The remains were brought here Tuesday morning, and in charge of Undertaker Mauger, were interred in the Lutheran cemetery at Trappe. The deceased was twice married, her first husband being John Walt, with whom she had two sons and four daughters. Her second husband was 'Squire Frederick Koons, now deceased, at one time a prominent citizen of Perkiomen township. Two sons, Charles and Frank Koons are the survivors of the last union.

Thursday of last week the last sad rites were pronounced over the remains of the youngest daughter, aged seven months, of Alexander Mitchell, of Mingo, this township. Interment was made in Dismant's cemetery. Abscess of the stomach was the cause of death.

Rev. Joel Rudderow, until recently rector of St. Paul's Memorial Protestant Episcopal church, at Oaks Station this township, died at his residence in Philadelphia, Wednesday of last week, aged 74 years. Since 1867 he had been pastor of the church named, which he was instrumental in having built. A widow and four sons survive.

Charles Rayson, son of Richard and the late Elizabeth Funk Rayson, of Bridgeport, this county, and nephew of Rev. H. R. Funk, formerly of this place, died in Salt Lake City, Utah, December 30, and was buried in the Trinity Reformed cemetery, this place, on Sunday last, Rev. J. H. Hendricks officiating. The deceased was in his 30th year, and was in the employ of the Reading Railroad Company from boyhood until the time of his death, and in the line of promotion was transferred from place to place. At the time of his death he held an important position at Atlantic City. He went to Salt Lake City some time ago in quest of health, having failed to recover from the effects of an attack of typhoid fever. About 30 Free Masons of Norristown attended the funeral in a body. B. F. Solly, Esq., officiating as G. W. M., and Court Crier, Mr. Whitesides, as Chaplain.

A Safe Investment.

Is one which is guaranteed to bring you satisfactory results, or in case of failure a return of purchase price. On this safe plan you can buy from our advertiser, Dr. King's New Life Pills, Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. It is guaranteed to bring relief in every case, when used for any affliction of the bowels, such as Constipation, Catarrh of the Lungs, Bronchitis, Asthma, Whooping Cough, Croup, etc. It is pleasant and a reliable remedy for all these troubles, and can always be depended upon. Trial bottles free at J. W. Culbert's Drug Store.

A MONSTER CAT.

Mrs. R. H. Gottshall, of Ironbridge, is perhaps the owner of the largest member of the feline species in the county, a Maltese cat that weighs, at the age of eighteen months, between thirteen and fourteen pounds. This particular and hefty pussy is very much of a pet and is very active in destroying mice and rats.

75 YEARS SINCE SHE WAS WED.

On New Year's Day Mrs. Maria Williams, of Roversford, was 95 years old, and on the same day it was the 75th anniversary of her wedding day. Her husband, Samuel Williams, died over forty years ago, but this venerable lady, who is the oldest person in that portion of the Schuylkill Valley, is still enjoying fair health. Mrs. Williams lives with her son-in-law and daughter, Daniel R. Buckwalter and wife, which latter couple celebrated their golden wedding or fiftieth marriage anniversary a year or two ago.

THE GRIP.

Advices from all parts of the country indicate that the visitation of "grippe" is not confined to any particular locality, nor, so far as observation goes, has its spread been traced to any special causes. It appears to be quite at home in places where the temperature is high or low, or where there is rain or sunshine. In Montgomery county there are many victims, and the malady is more fatal than in past years. Good nursing, with proper medical aid for the sick, and greater care than usual on the part of well persons, are the means of cure and prevention.

INJURED AND KILLED ON THE RAIL.

Thursday morning William Allen attempted to board a moving P. and R. coal train, Phoenixville, but slipping fell and fell under the cars. His right leg was cut off below the knee, and he was otherwise bruised and injured. He was sent to the Pennsylvania Hospital.

James Kane was killed Friday evening near Earnest station on the Schuylkill Valley Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad, by a west bound passenger train. The remains were taken to Norristown. A verdict of accidental death was rendered.

THE HOUSE SAVED.

Tuesday morning, of last week, the house on Abraham Alderfer's farm, west of Trappe, and tenanted by Harrison Alderfer, narrowly escaped destruction by fire. A lighted lamp standing on the mantel in the summer kitchen either exploded or was thrown to the floor and broken. The burning oil was fanned by a strong breeze, and only the vigorous assistance of neighbors prevented a general conflagration. By removing the porch and by applying water liberally the progress of the flames was cut off. The porch and attachments were destroyed.

ONE CENT PRESENTS.

The thirteen members of a West Chester household, says the *Village Record*, mutually agreed that each should give the other a present, but that no present should cost over 1 cent. They went to work, and work it was to some of them, to endeavor to select something out of the ordinary that could be procured for a penny. As a matter of course each had to select a dozen presents. When Christmas morning came there was as much good real fun in that household in the distribution of presents as in any household in town, and yet the expense was trifling.

AMONG THE SICK ABOUT TOWN.

Hattie, daughter of Captain H. H. Fetterolf, this place, is slowly recovering from a severe attack of enteritis.

G. Z. Vanderside is out again and is gradually recovering from the effects of the grip.

W. H. Gristock has been confined to his room since the middle of last week suffering from a severe attack of grip. We trust he will soon recover.

The grip has also prostrated M. O. Roberts of the Roberts Machine Company. He has passed the crisis and we are pleased to say that he expects to be on duty again the latter part of the week.

LOCAL INSTITUTE.

County Superintendent Hoffecker and the teachers of Perkiomen, a part of Frederick, and this Independent district, will hold a Local Institute in Industrial Hall, Schuylkill, on Friday and Saturday, January 22 and 23. The order of exercises agreed upon includes a variety of interesting topics for discussion, class drills, and lectures Friday and Saturday evenings by Prof. Kemp and Dr. Phillips. Prof. Kemp's subject, Friday evening, will be "Prairie Blossoms." Among the instructors to be secured if possible are Prof. D. C. and Prof. Wheeler. The latter gentleman is a member of the Faculty of Ursinus College. One of the topics will be: "Resolved that tuition charges be paid by the State." The Lutheran church choir, of Schuylkill, will furnish music Friday evening, and on Saturday evening the Grater's Ford Glee Club will be present. The prospects are that the forthcoming Institute will be a very successful affair throughout.

AGAIN ON A SOLID FOOTING.

J. J. Brower, President of the Farmers' and Mechanics National Bank of Phoenixville, and Director I. Z. Reiner of Lower Providence, were at Washington on Saturday last to secure from the Comptroller of Currency a renewal of the Charter. By past mismanagement the capital had become impaired, and by the vote of the shareholders last month it was decided to reduce the capital from \$150,000 to \$75,000, and to increase the capital to \$100,000 by selling \$25,000 worth of new stock, which was very readily taken. Since the change in the Board of Directors one year ago public confidence in the Bank has been restored. In a period of six months the deposits have increased \$30,000.

Merit Wins.

We desire to say to our citizens, that for years we have been selling Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Dr. King's New Life Pills, Bucklen's Arnica Salve, and Electric Bitters, and have never handled remedies that sell so well, or have given such universal satisfaction. We do not hesitate to guarantee them every time, and we stand ready to refund the purchase price, if satisfactory results do not follow their use. These remedies can always be depended upon. Trial bottles free at J. W. Culbert's Drug Store.

WINTER TERM AT URSINUS OPENED.

AN OUTLINE OF PROFESSOR WEINBERGER'S ADDRESS.

The winter term at Ursinus was opened Monday, and active Collegiate work has been resumed. On Tuesday Professor Weinberger delivered the Opening Address, taking for his subject True Courage. The Professor defined courage to be the moral mark which distinguishes one man from another. Courage lies in the mind and depends on reason and reflection. The best and noblest powers of man have frequently failed to exercise any healthy influence simply for want of a little courage. Courage is indispensable to success in life. Modesty is a cardinal virtue and is to be commended in every worthy character. But when it becomes so great that it disqualifies men for the successful discharge of their duties, it sinks into cowardice and ceases to be a virtue. In this age of short lived generations there is not time for delay, men must plunge right into the work before them. True Courage never boasts, it is always humble. The Apology of Socrates exhibits the finest type of true courage in Grecian literature. The Romans were preeminently a brave and courageous people. Courage is worth more than brilliancy in the student. The man of average capacity supported by courage accomplishes most in the race of life. The average man is a rule the most successful. Nothing is more honorable for a student than not to appear to know what he knows he does not know. The courageous student is fair, candid, and honest in all his dealings with his fellow students and teachers. To gain respect a person must be able to say no. Card playing is a great enemy to scholarship, and happy is the student who has courage enough to refuse to play and consign his own cards to the flames. To play at text-books can be made equally fascinating to a student and infinitely more profitable. A sound mind in a sound body is the sine qua non of all true success. When students have the moral courage to build up a moral universe among themselves and are willing to be governed by it, there is little room left for the exercise of superior power. It is this moral force exercised by the students that makes a college strong. It is a great fallacy to suppose that because a student is not a genius, he cannot do good work. True courage is compatible with the highest degree of faith in God. Modern criticism has too much head and not enough heart. Examples of true courage combined with common sense are found in two generals of our own country, namely, Hartranft, "the hero of Fort Steadman," and Hancock, "the superb." The highest style of true courage is Christian courage. It has its stay in God.

FROM LIMERICK.

We are sorry to hear of the serious illness of Mr. Ralph Johnson of Lower Providence and teacher of Church School, Limerick.

Dr. J. W. Royer visited Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Cole on Sunday, who are suffering from the grip.

Willie B. Johnson attended the entertainment in Hope Mission Chapel of the Baptist Church last Friday evening in Pottstown, which drew a full house, when he recited, by request, "Then and Now." Willie was the guest of Harry C. Keim for several days.

The funeral of Tobias Reifsnnyder was held at the residence of his son Peter W. Reifsnnyder, on Monday. Revs. E. C. Hilschman of Trappe and A. H. Herbst of Pottstown officiated. Interment at Limerick church.

The Old Year wound up with a fox-chase last Wednesday. It started at Roversford, passed through Limerick enroute for the pike, where it turned and reached its destination in Schrack's fodder stack. About 40 men mounted on horseback and a few wagons were in pursuit. Though of a short duration, it was fine sport for those engaged in it.

The Literary Society on last Friday evening was attended by an appreciative audience, but the program was like the fellow's boarding, "good enough what was of it." Owing to the grip, &c., some of the members were absent. The bill of fare was as follows: Singing; Reading Minutes; Reading Scripture by Chaplain Jacob L. Markley; Select Reading by Lillie H. Johnson, entitled "Onward and Upward"; an essay was read by O. W. Johnson, entitled "1892." Answering referred questions by persons to whom referred: Violin Solo by Laura B. Johnson, which was encored; the "Item" was then read, which created considerable merriment; Singing closed the exercises. A very interesting program is being arranged for Friday evening, Jan. 15.

Rev. E. Clark Hilschman selected a good fat text, from which he preached an elegant New Year's sermon in St. Luke's church, Trappe, last Sunday. Psalm 91: "The Lord Reigneth." Ever since Jehovah flung this grand old world of ours into being, its perpetual motion has been maintained by means of a mighty lever held by omnipotent power until the appointed time when the spring shall snap and the machinery will stop for ever. He, who have given such universal satisfaction, but also in the domestic circle and in the spiritual realm. In view of the uncertainties of the future, its temptations, misfortunes, trials and responsibilities, it is a consolation to know that "The Lord Reigneth."

We were favored with an interesting letter from J. B. Johnson, of Colfax, Washington, who is well known to many readers of the *INDEPENDENT*. Mr. Johnson was born in the vicinity of Trappe, where he spent his boyhood; later on attended school at Washington Hall, Prof. A. Rambo principal. Having a desire to embark in some business enterprise, he was induced by interested parties to invest his money in woodland in the western part of Pennsylvania. We are sorry to say this venture was not a financial success. He was then elected County Superintendent of Public Instruction for one or two terms in Cameron, Pa., after which he married a daughter of Judge Freeman, who was a prominent citizen of Cameron. Mrs. Johnson is an intelligent, refined and amiable woman. His union proved to be a happy one. He then engaged for several years in the lumber and coal business. Two years ago he visited this locality for the purpose of buying a small farm; failing in this, he returned home and there concluded to follow the "star of empire which westward wends its way," and we now find him 6 miles from Colfax, in the State of Washington, formerly a territory, engaged in agricultural pursuits. As the subject of our sketch has quite a number of friends and relatives in this section who will be glad to know of his whereabouts, we will furnish a few brief extracts from his letter: "I take ten weekly papers, and of that number none is read more eagerly than the *PROVIDENCE INDEPENDENT*, because it brings with it in every issue something that starts my 'think tank,' as Bill Nye says, stimulating recollections of long ago." Again, "This is a remarkable country in many respects, in none more so than the fertility of its soil. We had a forty acre field of wheat this year that produced 50 bushels to the acre. This field has raised grain for the past 14 years without any manure or fertilizers. Our crops are simply immense." Again, "The country is treeless and stoneless, the ground being the finest I ever worked in; it is called volcanic ash, and is seldom too wet to plow. The wheat is threshed in the field; the grain runs into sacks, which are sewed up and filled up where they lie until hauled to market. The straw is stacked for the cattle to eat in winter. The working horses are stabled. Farmers did well here this year; good crops and good prices. We are chuck full of Alliance ideas and pretty well organized. Your humble servant is president of the county and local Alliance; was a delegate to our State Convention last month. There is more hustling among the people of this great northwest to the square inch than I ever saw in an acre in Penna."

"OVER THE HILLS TO THE POORHOUSE." The first meeting, for the year 1892, of the Directors of the Poor at the Almshouse, Monday, did not attract a very large gathering, nor were those present imbued with an extraordinary amount of animation. The impression that no changes in the official management of the internal affairs of the Institution would be made, save in one important particular, gave no encouragement to those who might have, under other circumstances, jostled each other about in quest of sundry positions of more or less wealth and power.

The old Board, Messrs. Johnson, Supplee and Kile wound up the business affairs of the past year shortly after dinner, when Mr. Johnson retired from the Board and was succeeded by Reuben Munbaur, of Upper Hanover. The exit of the old and the ingress of the new member made the Board solidly Democratic according to Jackson, Jefferson and Cleveland, and from Brother Supplee's boot soles to the luxuriant growth of hair on top of Director Kile's upstair story. The retirement of Mr. Johnson gave rise to deserved remarks from his former associates upon the numerous evidences of zealous care, honesty and integrity he had always manifested in discharging his duties. Edw. F. Kane, Esq., the agile Solicitor and Clerk, whose clear cut features bear a marked resemblance to those of the ancient Grecian gods, devoted himself of a capital speech in lieu of the change made in the make-up of the Board. He graciously referred to Mr. Johnson's companionable disposition and the efficiency and uprightness he was wont to manifest. Mr. Kane reviewed the doings of the old Board and the reforms effected, and abuses corrected, and the saving of about \$4,000 in the expenses of the institution as compared with previous years. In speaking of the formerly existing abuses in the matter of out-door relief and out-door medical attendance, he made the startling disclosure that certain grocers had taken pains to encourage in various and questionable ways those receiving assistance from the county—for the benefit of the grocer; and that certain physicians (with shame be it said) had been in the habit of posing as being the only ones duly authorized to administer service to the poor, upon the strength of which statement their patronage was increased and enormous bills were incurred—at the expense of the county for the benefit of the doctors. In comparing the past abuses with the present reforms in operation he cited the fact that since Norristown has been divided into districts and physicians appointed, without any political consideration whatever, not a dollar has been demanded from that quarter where \$200 per month was required before. Whilst Mr. Kane's speech had a political flavor, it nevertheless had much of the true ring about it—judged from the standpoint of honest public officials, and we here congratulate one of the ascending stars of Montgomery's Democracy, at Henderson Supplee, upon his masterful leadership in directing various reformatory measures. Mr. Supplee may not always be right, not likely that he is, but he has a big head for business and means to serve the public with unflinching integrity.

After the organization of the new Board, the following Almshouse officials were re-elected: Steward, C. U. Bean; Matron, Mrs. C. U. Bean; Solicitor, Edw. F. Kane, Esq.; Engineer, Michael Nevin; Farmer, B. Weaver; Second Farmer, Michael Hassler; Watchman, Matthias Kelter; Shoemaker, Jerry Kalb; Tailor, Leonard Swede; Baker, George Heffer; Seamstress, Mrs. Kate Sellers. When the Directors reached the appointment of Physicians their quarrels wouldn't fit together, and there was quite a hitch before they crossed the ditch and lovingly clasped hands on the other side. The union was effected by a sort of a complex, double-acting (not warranted to wear) combination. Drs. Geo. W. Stein, of Roversford, and J. Y. Bechtel, Schuylkill, Democrats from away back and no questions necessary, were named to succeed, after first of April, Dr. J. Warren Royer, the present most capable physician. A resolution stipulated that Dr. Stein should serve the first six months and Dr. Bechtel the last six months of the year. This may prove to be a happy combination, and it may not. We don't see the practicability in this case, of making political holes for political pegs. A wag at our elbow suggests that the Directors go further and appoint all the Democratic physicians, not debarred by imbecility, within a radius of eight miles to take turn about, some by day and others by night.

A few figures: Gross expenditures, \$29,261.46; Receipts from farm, \$2,236.75; net expenses, \$27,024.71—about \$3,000 less than the year previous. During the year several important and permanent improvements were effected, notably the creamery fixtures at a cost of about \$650. This

is a showing in the right direction. Number of inmates at present, 209.

The present engineer, Michael Nevin, keeps his apartment right abreast with the cleanliness and order manifested throughout the buildings, and he is a model engineer, well deserving a word of praise right here, while we think of it.

Editor Kneels, Corner H. B. Long and T. J. Baker, of Norristown, after a very careful survey of the Almshouse farm, decided to report the line fences in order and the local influences exhilarating.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS EXPENDED.

The footings of the various expense accounts for running the county for 1891 have been computed and shows the following: Total amount of county orders paid during the year, \$191,952.91; Miscellaneous payments, 6,641.02; Court expenses, 15,638.22; Road damages, 35,832.40; County bridges, 32,441.58; Commissioners' offices, 413.00; Justices of the Peace, 765.50; Prison appropriation, 7,116.88; Books and stationery, 3,418.42; County prison and penitentiary, 2,611.26; Coroner's and Justices' inquiries, 1,304.75; Printing, 3,044.42; Assessors, 3,732.07; General and spring election, 5,261.51; Board of Insane, 6,042.01; Recognizance, 2,509.33; Court fees, 1,201.71; Orders for county prison, 9,009.91; Receipts from county prison, 1,892.91.

THE MAN WHO ESCAPED.

THOUGH OLD AND GREEN HE KNEW HOW TO HANDLE CONFIDENCE MEN. From the Detroit Free Press.

There was a pretty old and pretty verdant looking man at the Third Street Depot the other day, with three hours to wait for his train, and by and by he was approached by Officer Button and said he guessed he'd wander around for a spell.

"Well, lookout for yourself," replied the officer.

"Any danger?"

"There's always sick fellows about."

"Yes, I 'spose that's it, but I shan't let nobody fool me."

He was about an hour and when he returned he showed the officer a bank check for \$200 and asked:

"Does that seem all right to you?"

"Right?" Of course not. It's a check on a Buffalo bank signed John Smith. It's a dead fake, of course."

"Fake! What's a fake?"

"You've been fooled. I expected you'd get into trouble when you went out there. Seems singular that you can't talk common sense into some people."

"Then is the check no good?" asked the old man.

"Why, of course not. How much did you lend on it?"

"I gave him \$25."

"Well, you've been confidence, and now you'd better go and sit down and keep mum."

"Is that what you call a confidence game?"

"Of course."

"Well, I thought so all the time."

"Then what did you let him walk off with your money for?"

"I didn't know. He started to go, but I grabbed him by the neck, like this, and backed him up again a wall, like this, and I pulled out this old pistol and laid the barl on his nose and he gave up that money quicker 'scat."

The old man illustrated the case in the most vigorous manner, even to laying on the barl, which was a portion of a weapon seemingly fifty years old.

"So you got your money?" asked the officer, as he got his neck loose from the old man's grip.

"Got 'er right down in my breeches pocket, safe as a bank. How much more time have I got?"

"An hour and a half."

"Wall, I guess I'll take another little walk around. Mebbe I'll meet somebody else who don't know that I run a side-show with old Dan Rice's circus for better than twenty years, and who thinks I'm a kitchen door for flies to roost on."

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

The best salve in the world for cuts, bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever sores, letter, chapped hands, chilblains, corns, and all skin eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale at Culbert's Drug Store.

FOR RENT!

A desirable private residence in Collegeville. For particulars apply to DR. J. H. HAMER, 113 South 10th St., Phila., Pa.

FOR RENT!

The residence of Samuel Lachman, in Collegeville a convenient home in excellent repair. Apply ON THE PREMISES.

FOR RENT!

A productive farm in Schuylkill township, Chester county, near Phoenixville;

